NUMB. XX.] THE [DECEMBER 9, 1786.

PITTSBURGH GAZETTE

Price SIX-PENCE.] SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1786. [VOL. I.

From the Boston INDEPENDENT CHRONICLE.

A View of the Federal Government of America.

Its Defects, and a proposed Remedy.

IN every government there seems to be a point of perfection, which establishes a just balance between the rights of the people, and its own coercive power. On either side of this point their is equal danger of political destruction. On the one hand, if the executive authority becomes too absolute, corruption, with all its infectious train, mixes with the administration, and the progression only stops at the utmost bounds of despotic sway. On the other, if there be no coercion, a general decadence ensues, till the component parts separate by fermentation, and the whole dissolves into confusion. In this situation personal strength becomes the criterion of power, and power is the sole arbiter of right. Mankind thus reduced to a state of nature, are governed only by natural motives, and numberless little despots, within the circle of their own influence, keep the weak and timid subject to their uncontroled will. Of these situations, *that* seems the less to be feared which wears the greater probability of working its own cure. Whenever a revolution takes place in consequence of an over-stretch of power, a social compact generally follows; and if this is wisely made a well organized government, on true principles of freedom, is the natural effect. But in every revolution from a disorderly democracy, the authority of one man is the only source from which good order is expected, and all who want protection cry out for a dictator, who soon becomes a king, and then ripens into a tyrant. Thus we see that in the course of national affairs, the liberty of the people is in a more hazardous situation when the sinews of government are unstrung, than when they are drawn too tight. In the latter case there are hopes of their being stretched to a rupture, but in the former there is no prospect of restoring their wonted elasticity.

I have been led to these reflections, by considering the present state of our federal government, which presents a melancholy picture of a headless body, where the tremulous motion of the severed nerves, is the only sign of remaining life. That this is not a high coloured representation, will be seen by examining the powers of Congress; if the right of asking favors, and receiving refusals can be called power.---- Here let me ask the indulgence of my countrymen, in expressing my sentiments like a free born American, without meanly courting applause, or weakly fearing blame. They proceed from a heart that is willing to stand any test of attachment to the laws and liberties of these United States, and under this conviction, I feel myself assured of their candid reception throughout America.

There are three grand immutable principles in good government, which so intimately depend upon each other, that it is an absurdity in terms to give that name to any constitution where they are not in compleat and uniform action. These principles are the *legislative*, the *judicial* and the *executive*. What cyphers must those legislators be, who cannot bring their own laws into judicial operation? And how trifling are those decisions which cannot be enforced? Like the weak commands of a superannuated matron, the more they are attempted to be executed, the deeper they sink into contempt.

The articles of confederation were made for the temporary purposes of a war; they were as wisely drawn as the then situation of the country would permit: for pressed by danger on every side, our immediate defence was uppermost in our minds, and our attention was naturally absorbed by objects of magnitude that surrounded us, while only time and reflection could make us acquainted with more important ones at a distance. In this situation we voluntarily gave the force of law to recommendations, which we now treat like common advice.

Thus the confederation, that appeared so perfect in its original state, is become a loose, incompleat agreement, totally inconsistent with its own principles. By this political compact, the United States in Congress, have '*exclusive right and power*' for the following purposes, without being able to *execute* one of them.

They may 'make and conclude treaties,' but can only *recommend* the observance of them.

They may appoint ambassadors, but cannot defray even the expence of their tables.

They may borrow money in their own name, on the faith of the union, but cannot *pay* a dollar.

They may coin money, but cannot purchase an ounce of bullion.

They may make war, and determine what number of troops are necessary, but cannot raise a single soldier. In short, they may DECLARE every thing, but can DO nothing.

This is no longer a secret in Europe, and our ambassadors abroad are treated with bare civility by our allies, and with neglect by aliens. Letters from Mr. A---- himself have been publicly shown in our capital cities, and we have there read, that the Americans, in the estimation of Englishmen, are sunk into the lowest pit of contempt. The government and people of that island, speak of us as they do of animals that contaminate by the touch; while our public faith, like that of ancient Carthage, is settled into a vulgar proverb.

In short, if the fanatic ravings of a crazy nobleman, did not bring our ambassador sometimes into public view, it would soon be forgotten that such a character ever appeared at St. James's.

The English give themselves no trouble about compleating the conditions of the treaty of peace, and never intend to evacuate our western posts, they wish to provoke us to attack them, because they wish to open another quarrel: and as they feel a contempt for our federal government, they think our disunion will make us an easy conquest. Under the influence these ideas, they have in imagination, already divided America into as many vice-royalties, as they have royal *Cubis* to provide for.

If any thing can add to this description of the impotence of our federal government, it must be a total want of authority over its own members. We have seen a recent instance of this in the loss of a late question, the consequence of which is, that any member may leave Congress, whenever he pleases, without their leave, or that of the state he represents. The most important question may therefore be lost by the wilful absence of one delegate.

To illustrate this truth, I will suppose a case, which the memory of some of my fellow citizens who have been in Congress, may perhaps apply to fact.

Suppose exactly nine states to be assembled, (and more seldom meet) suppose a foreign alliance, a loan, a war, or any question on which the general welfare depends to be under debate. The vote under these circumstances must be unanimous, or it cannot be decisive. Then any delegate of a state that sends only two members, who dislikes a measure (and Congress must be pure indeed, if there be not one wrong head in it) may by walking out, leave only eight states and a half present, and thus destroy the power of decision: there being no authority to keep him in his seat, he in effect exercises a negative voice over the United States, and annulls their measures as compleatly as the Grand Turk can annull the proceedings of the divan.

I am sorry to draw such a melancholy picture, but its truth must be its apology. I mean no disrespect to our rulers, either collectively or individually; I only wish they were rulers in *reality*, instead of being so only in *idea*. An ardent and unequivocal affection for my country, tears this representation from me, and my heart bleeds, while my pen traces only the outlines of our disgrace and misery.

It has been a great source of error among our politicians, to have the republics of Greece and Rome, floating in their dazzled view, as models for America, when there is scarcely a point of parity between them and us. One of the Spartan virtues was adroit thieving, and the great object of Roman patriotism, was the conquest of their neighbours. These republics made peace, but with a view of going to war again, and where they saw a prospect of plunder, they never wanted a motive. In failure of a common enemy, they used to fight with each other, and Athens and Lacedemon have been seen in alternate prosperity and distress by their mutual depredations. The genius of America, on the contrary, is peace; arts, agriculture and commerce are her great sources of wealth and happiness; these can never flourish, but in a free, energetic government; and this is all that is wanting to complcat our public happiness. It is not yet too late, and I hope we shall soon rouse ourselves into measures, that will save us from the ruin into which we are rapidly falling.

Let us then strengthen our federal government, let it be possessed of the three principles in full extent; and let us condition, that Congress shall exercise due authority *over themselves legislative, judicial* and *executive* powers may be given to that body without endangering the liberty of the subject, since by a right of recall, the states can dissolve this authority the moment it is abused, but where legislators, in due rotation, are governors and subjects, their seems little danger of such abuse.

My candid and intelligent readers, will pardon a farther intrusion upon their patience, when I close with a quotation from the sage and sublime Montesquieu,

"As distant as heaven is from earth, so is the true spirit of equality from that of *extreme* equality. The former does not imply that every body should command, or that no one should be commanded, but that we obey or command our equals. It endeavors now to shake off the authority of a master, but that its masters should be none but its equals.

"In the state of nature indeed all men are born equal; but they cannot continue in this equality. Society makes them lose it, and they recover it only by the protection of the laws.

"Such is the difference between a well regulated democracy, and one that is not so; that in the former, men are equal only as citizens, but in the latter they are equal also as magistrates, as senators, as judges, as fathers, as husbands or as masters.

The natural place of virtue is near to liberty, but it is not nearer to *excessive* liberty, than to servitude."

A BOSTONIAN.

Foreign Intelligence.

VENICE, August 1.

THE news of the advantages gained on the coast of Tunis, by the squadron under chevalier Emo is confirmed, with this difference, that it is now said the loss on our side has been much more considerable than was at first reported; and further, that the diseases which prevail among the crews of the ships, has so weakened our forces that the commandant, instead of a new attack, is preparing to leave those latitudes, either, as it is asserted, because he has received orders from the senate to observe the Ottoman fleet, or that the republic has resolved to abandon so extensive an enterprise, which will be ever fruitless. The number of houses damaged or destroyed during the attack, is calculated at 400; but persons acquainted with the country, know that all those houses are only paltry buildings which were destroyed one day and rebuilt the next.

We are here in a state of uneasiness relative to the proceedings of the Turks, who it should seem were meditating mischief against this republic. It may be remembered, that in the last century, the Porte made great preparations, which they seemed to direct against the Austrians and Poles, when, all on a sudden they fell upon us, and destroyed two-thirds of our then possessions. At this moment a respectable fleet of theirs is sailed, as it is said, to the coast of Africa, but that may only be a pretence; besides, who knows what may be the real intentions of the captain Pacha, whether he means to chastise or join the rebel Jussuff, who has committed such devastation on our territory. These reflections have induced our senators to strain every nerve to put this republic in a respectable state of defence, and we have the most satisfactory hopes of protection from the two Imperial courts, who will certainly not let us be crushed by a power which we may say is inimical to us all, but will protect us with all their forces, and seize that opportunity to oblige the Porte to accept of those arrangements which they have had the art so long to elude.

London, August 5. A ludicrous accident happened on Tuesday evening at the Hay-market theatre, which produced an uncommon degree of merriment in the audience. The play was the Disbanded Officer and young Bannister in the character of *Warmans*, brings a bag to his friend, which is supposed to contain 100 pistoles. His friend rejects this tribute of officious generosity, and *Warmans* mortified that his offer was disdained, threw the bag indignantly on the ground, when lo! instead of the hundred pistoles, or the usual *tin currency* of the stage, the bag burst open, and presented a strange mixture of *stones, oyster shells*, and other equally valuable materials, which excited a convulsion of laughter in the actors, as well as spectators, that did not speedily subside.

Aug. 8. When we read, as we do daily, of the troubles and viſitations of foreign countries, we may exclaim, that England is a happy ſpot, peculiarly favored by Heaven! inſtead of earthquakes and inundations, hurricanes and famines, we have no afflictions, but what ariſe from mock-patriots, and even theſe are become now the moſt harmleſs things in nature.

The poor Venetians feel their full ſhare of the mortification which attends all the powers in the Mediterranean. As to bombardments, the Barbarians grow uſed to them, and conſequently callous. The quantity of powder and ſhot expended by chevalier Emo, in his late attacks, has already coſt an enormous ſum.

Lord Camden is in high dudgeon with adminiſtration, and certainly defians the preſidency of the council before the next meeting of parliament: his lordſhip is a prudent politician, having always proved himſelf the firſt rat to quit a ſinking ſhip.

The French are working double tides at their navy and Spain has lately put fifteen ſhips of the line in commiſſion. What does this indicate? We have no ambaſſador at the court of Madrid; nor are we likely to have one. Lord Walſingham is talked of, but the fact is, the Spaniards do not want a Britiſh overſeer: they know what they are about very well.---England is reducing her navy, while the houſe of Bourbon is greatly increaſing theirs. Our miniſters talk of and act with diſreſpect to the naval ſtrength.---France, Spain and Holland worſhip that defence. The conſequence of this conduct muſt in the end change the name of Great-Britain, into that of little England. Indeed, from every appearance, the time does not ſeem very diſtant. The whole care and attention of miniſters is ſwelled up in ſchemes to aggrandize the India company, and by preſerving a body of Laſcar ſenators in the houſe of commons, ſecure the continuance of the enormous emoluments of office.

The Engliſh appear to be rouſed from their lethargy, and to be ſenſible of the great importance of their fiſheries, which have hitherto been neglected in a moſt unaccountable manner. From the number of ſchemes now in agitation, there is great reaſon to hope we ſhall ſoon rival the Dutch in this valuable branch of commerce.

American Occurrences.

BOSTON, October 28.

On the 11th inſtant, the honorable Rufus King, eſquire, appeared before the houſe of repreſentatives, in compliance with their vote, and gave full information relative to the affairs of the United States, immediately affecting the intereſt of this commonwealth, as follows:

Mr. King ſtated, That though our delegates had been unſucceſsful in their efforts to procure a redemption of the old continental bills of credit, as inſtructed, yet their exertions had been productive of ſuch meaſures as by preſſing the other ſtates to pay in their quotas, had procured a market for part of the ſurplus of thoſe bills, which had reſted on the good people of this commonwealth.

That the expences of the Penobſcot expedition had not yet been allowed by Congreſs from the following cauſes---the demand from the ſouthern part of the continent againſt the union, were chiefly by individuals. The governments there, during the ravages of the enemy, were more deranged than thoſe at the northward, and for that reaſon, greater exertions had been made by particular citizens. Theſe demands not being ſupported by vouchers, and being thought exorbitant, had been held in ſome meaſure inadmiſſible---and it had now become a condition by their repreſentatives in Congreſs, that the expences of the Penobſcot expedition ſhould be allowed or not, as thoſe demands were admitted or rejected. But there was nevertheleſs a great proſpect that thoſe expences would be more advantageouſly adjuſted than they could have been at any paſt time, or in any other mode.

That the delays in ſettling the accounts between the ſeveral ſtates and the United States had been retarded by the ſame cauſes, but would now probably iſſue favorable to Maſſachuſetts. This was to be hoped would eaſe the minds of thoſe citizens, who ſuppoſed that their burthen, from unequal exertions was neglected by Congreſs.

That the demands of ſundry individuals for property taken by Britiſh commanders, the ſubjects of the eaſtern boundary of Maſſachuſetts, and the inſolent conduct of a late navy officer to our chief magiſtrate, had been before the Britiſh miniſtry. The latter buſineſs had been noticed in a manner ſuitable to the dignity of this ſtate.

As to the matter of intereſt due to Britiſh ſubjects, Mr. King obſerved, that nothing final had been accompliſhed, but much attention had been paid in England to American acts, which were ſaid (and of them juſtly ſaid) to be breachers of this part of the treaty. But the treaty was the law of the land, and there could not be a queſtion that the peculiarity of the ſituation of the two countries juſtified the wiſhes of Americans, as to withholding intereſt during the war. Juries had a right to determine the queſtion, and this would render legiſlative interference unneceſſary.

That the report of the commercial convention was before Congreſs. The hon. gentleman obſerved, that doubts had ariſen as to the mode of agreeing upon commercial regulations. The confederation was the act of the people. No part could be altered but by conſent of Congreſs and confirmation of the ſeveral legiſlatures. Congreſs therefore ought to make the examination firſt; becauſe, if it was done by a convention, no legiſlature could have a right to confirm it. Did any legiſlature fit for ſuch purpoſe? No. It muſt be referred to the people, and then what degree of aſſent was neceſſary to make it an article of confederation? Whereas, if it was conducted agreeably to the confederation, no ſuch difficulty could exiſt. Beſides, if Congreſs ſhould not agree upon a repoſt of a convention, the moſt fatal conſequences might follow. Congreſs therefore were the proper body to propoſe alterations.

That the federal treaſury afforded a moſt melancholy picture. Decency forbid his making any obſervations upon the ſupplies of this commonwealth; the other New-England ſtates were equally in arrears with Maſſachuſetts, that New-York had lately exerted, but that very little or no money had been paid by any of the four ſouthern ſtates ſince the concluſion of the war: in the courſe of the laſt two years but little more than half a million of dollars in ſpecie had been paid into the federal treaſury, a ſum ſcarcely equal to the annual expences of our federal government.

It has become a ſubject of admiration how government exiſted. From foreign loans nothing was to be expected; the gleanings of theſe had hitherto kept things along. But what were to become of our demands from foreigners? The French crown no doubt would be, as it had been, magnanimous: the Spaniſh debt was ſmall; but our creditors in Holland were not to be put off. Educated in the ſcience of money matters, they held every man as much bound as though he had ſealed his obligation, and all property would alike be expoſed to their repriſals.

So melancholy was the ſtate of the federal treaſury that all men ſeemed to turn away from it, as an evil which admitted no remedy. If all the ſtates could be brought into the continental impoſt, this reſource indeed might be anticipated, and the national credit ſtrengthened in that way, but there remained two ſtates which had not acceded to it, Pennſylvania and New-York. The ſituation of the former was known, and ſhould that ſtate be brought over, there could be no doubt but that the ſafety of the union, would induce the acceſſion of New-York.

That as to the domeſtic debt, it had been urged that the people were not able to pay it; but there were not wanting means of reducing it in a ſhort time. At any rate the great repreſentative body of the ſtates would never diſgrace themſelves by any diſhoneſt meaſures relative to the ſecurities. There were good grounds for the creditors to entertain a confidence of this. The ſtate of New-York had nearly collected their proportion or quota into their treaſury, and had done more, by the aſſumption of the federal debt due to their citizens, and by the ſale of vacant lands, they therefore will not fail to enforce an honorable payment of this debt. The means which Congreſs poſſeſſed to extinguiſh it, were not trifling. Their lands were now almoſt ready to be ſold: near 3,000,000 of acres would be ſurveyed by November next, and purchaſes were eagerly ſought after. That, in ſhort, if America had any virtue left, ſhe might be happy. Her reſources from the impoſt duty, and her lands, would very ſoon relieve her from her burthens. Near half a million of dollars might in a ſhort time be applied from the duty, to ſinking the domeſtic debt, and this fund would in a few years be nearly adequate to extinguiſhing the whole.

But the honorable gentleman obſerved, that there was an evil in public affairs infinitely greater than he had mentioned. It was not, perhaps, immediately within the order, under which he had the honor to ſtand before that houſe; but ſo ſerious were the effects which it ſeemed to him to follow, that conſiderations of duty to the legiſlature, and to his country, had emboldened him to mention it. The houſe, to be ſure, would anticipate, that he ſpoke of the commotions now exiſting in Maſſachuſetts. This was viewed by Congreſs as the moſt important ſubject that ever came before that reſpectable aſſembly. Every member conſidered himſelf as perſonally intereſted in it. He realized his life, liberty and property, as involved in the iſſue of their deciſions. There was a league ſubſiſting between the ſtates of America, to oppoſe every force that ſhould ariſe againſt either of them. The United States would not be inactive on ſuch an occaſion. They were concerned-----deeply concerned in the reſult. If ſuch a barrier was removed, every other government would be evidently ſwept away. Let numbers be compared; if government had only a minority, let it be remembered, that they had a majority of every ſtate in the union to join them. It ought not to be concealed, that the Britiſh Packet had been diſpatched a day earlier, perhaps in conſequence of the commotions which had happened with us.

Advantages might be taken of the divided ſtate of the people, to bring about meaſures which otherwiſe could never be effected by the enemies of our country. When Congreſs ſhould know this; when they ſhould ſee government proſtrated in the duſt, what would be their feelings? They were not authoriſed to ſee any government ſubverted. If the ſpeaker had been too earneſt on this ſubject he requeſted the pardon of the houſe, as he ſpoke from a fear leſt palliatives might be adopted where vigour was required.

The honorable gentleman then read ſeveral private letters, from a gentleman in office at a foreign court, to confirm the ſentiments which he had advanced.

NEW-YORK, October 25.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Newport, Rhode-Iſland, to his friend in this town, dated October 7, 1786.

"At this critical juncture, when the people of two ſtates are in open rebellion againſt laws, and the legiſlature of another is purſuing a ſyſtem of villainy I know you muſt feel anxious to hear of every public tranſaction in detail. For this reaſon I beg leave to ſtate to you the proceedings of the general aſſembly of Rhode-Iſland.

"Yeſterday a bill was brought into the houſe, which had been concerted in convention, the evening before, and may juſtly be termed the bloody act, if it ſhould ever paſs into a law. It contains a teſt or oath, by which every perſon muſt ſwear to uſe his influence to ſupport the paper on a par with caſh, and to take it at par in all commercial tranſactions. All officers who do not take it in 20 days from its paſſing, are ſuſpended---maſters of veſſels cannot enter or unload, till they have taken it---every male of 21 years of age muſt take it, or be diſfranchiſed; lawyers are prohibited from acting as attornies, unleſs they take it, and to crown the whole, the members of the next legiſlature, muſt take it before they can ſit in either houſe.

"Such an open act of tyranny; ſuch a bare faced act of villainy; ſuch a flagitant act upon the conſtitution, you muſt think, even alarmed the paper members themſelves. After ſome debate upon the matter in which Mr. Merchant reprobated the meaſure, in language that did honor to a freeman, as did Mr. Brown and ſeveral other gentlemen, the queſtion was put, "whether the houſe would act upon the bill or refer it to the next ſeſſion, (which will be in about three weeks) for the conſideration of the people;" it paſſed for referring by a great majority.

RICHMOND, (Virginia) October 28.

At a meeting of the Patriotic Society at Richmond Court-houſe, on Tueſday the 3d of October, 1786, the following reſolutions were unanimouſly agreed to.

The Patriotic Society upon mature reflection being fully convinced, that the only method in the power of the people, honeſtly and effectually to relieve themſelves from the oppreſſion of public and private debt, is, by ſpirited exertions of induſtry to increaſe the productions of the country, and by a ſtrict frugality, and avoiding all diſſipation, to leſſen their expences, which will neceſſarily leave them the means (much wiſhed for) of removing their embarraſſments; we do therefore pledge ourſelves, by our example to encourage and promote induſtry, frugality and economy.

And whereas dependency of this country upon foreigners for almoſt every neceſſary and convenience of life, muſt, as has ever been the caſe in other countries, tend to its impoveriſhment and weakneſs.

We further declare, that we ſhall be at all times ready, by every encouragement in our power, to promote every well founded ſcheme of trade or manufacture, the profits of which ſhall ariſe and centre with our own citizens.

PHILADELPHIA, November 8.

A farewell ſermon was preached on Sunday morning laſt, in Chriſt Church, and in the afternoon at St. Peter's, by the reverend William White, (lately appointed by the Proteſtant Epiſcopal convention of this ſtate to be conſecrated biſhop of that church in Pennſylvania) preparatory to his departure for England for conſecration.

He delivered a very affecting diſcourſe, which made a very great impreſſion upon his auditors, who,

though they rejoiced that so amiable and well beloved a clergyman had been chosen for so exalted and important a trust, were penetrated with regret at the idea of parting with him.

By the New-York papers we find, that the revd. Samuel Prevoft, appointed to be consecrated bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in that state, preached his farewell sermon the same day. The papers inform, that "he delivered a most excellent discourse, very suitable to the occasion, upon the important duty of Christian love, from part of our Saviour's valedictory discourse before his passion: namely:

"A new commandment I give unto you, that ye "love one another: as I have loved you, that ye "also love one another."

"The animated and pathetic manner in which he addressed his audience, who, as well as himself, appeared to be strongly affected, will be long remembered by those who were present. He mentioned his expectations of being able to return to this country in eighteen months.

Business is brought forward in the house of assembly with more expedition than has been known at the beginning of any session for a long time past. Every thing is put in a train of motion. Some bills taken from the files of the late house, have been already read a first and second time, and ordered for publication. Committees are appointed upon all the most urgent matters, whose reports may be expected to come forward in a few days.

The admirable order and regularity introduced and supported by the present speaker, reflect the highest honor on him, and have acquired him the sincere plaudit of every man who frequents the house They expedite the proceedings of the legislature in one half the time that would otherwise be consumed. The decorum and attention to business which he enforces, are highly praise worthy.

We learn from Vermont, that on Thursday the 2d ult. his excellency Thomas Chittendon, esquire, was re elected governor of that state for the ensuing year, and that the honorable Joseph Marsh, was elected lieutenant governor.

Congress have granted sea-letters, for the following ships, viz-

The ship Betsey, captain John Elligood, now lying at Baltimore, in the state of Maryland, and bound to the coast of Malabar, in the East Indies.

The ship Leda, captain Nicholas Gardner, now lying at Boston, in the state of Massachusetts, and bound to the coast of Coromandel.

The ship Hope, Bayly Warren, master, now lying at Norfolk, in the state of Virginia, and bound to Canton, in China.

Pittsburgh, December 9.

By the United States in Congress Assembled.

New-York, October 20, 1786.

The committee consisting of Mr. Pettit, Mr. Lee, Mr. Pinckney, Mr. Henry and Mr. Smith, to whom was referred the letter from the War Office, with the papers enclosed, containing intelligence of the hostile intentions of the Indians in the Western Country, having reported:

That the uniform tenor of the intelligence from the Western Country, plainly indicates the hostile disposition of a number of hostile Indian nations, particularly the Shawanese, Pateotamies, Chippewas, Tawas and Twightwees.

That these nations are now assembling in the Shawanese towns, and are joined by a banditti of desperadoes under the name of Mingoes and Cherokees, who are outcasts from other nations, and who have associated and settled in that country for the purpose of war and plunder. That they are labouring to draw in other nations to unite with them in a war with the Americans. That it is expected, one thousand warriors will soon be collected in the Shawanese towns, from whence they have already dispatched parties to commence hostilities. That from the motions of the Indians to the southward as well as the northward, and the exertions made in different quarters to stimulate the various nations against the Americans, there is the strongest reason to believe, that unless the speediest measures are taken effectually to counteract and defeat their plans, the war will become general, and may be attended with the most dangerous and lasting consequence:

That the committee therefore deem it highly necessary that the troops in the service of the United States be immediately augmented, not only for the protection and support of the frontiers of the states bordering on the western territory and the valuable settlements on and near the margin of the Mississippi, but to establish the possession and facilitate the surveying and selling those intermediate lands, which have been so much relied on for the reduction of the debts of the United States; whereupon,

Resolved, That the number of one thousand three hundred and forty non-commissioned officers and privates, be raised for the term of three years, unless sooner discharged, and that they, together with the troops now in service, be formed into a legionary corps, to consist of 2040 non-commissioned officers and privates. That the additional troops be raised by the following states in the following proportions, to wit.

New Hampshire	260)		
Massachusetts	660)	Infantry and Artillery	1220
Rhode island	120)		
Connecticut	180)		
Virginia & Maryland, each 60 cavalry, making			120
			.....
			1340

That the secretary at war inform the executive authorities of the respective states in which the troops are to be raised, the number and rank of commissioned officers to be furnished by each state in proportion to the men.

That the pay and allowance of the troops to be raised by this resolve, be the same as established by act of Congress of the 27th of April, 1785.

That the said troops shall be subject to the existing articles of war, or such as may hereafter be formed by Congress, or a committee of the states.

Resolved, That the states abovementioned be and they hereby are requested to use their utmost exertions to raise the quotas of troops respectively assigned to them, with all possible expedition: and that the executives of the said states be, and hereby are requested, in case any of their legislatures should not be in session, immediately to convene them for this purpose, as a delay may be attended with the most fatal consequences.

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

For the PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

A Gentlewoman of good sense and character, related to me the following passage, viz.

That she being in the town of York, when it was invested by general Washington's army, and having a little daughter of her's with her, they were sitting together on a stool; and being much concerned in mind about the danger and circumstances they were under, she was seized with a sudden fear and strong impulse to arise from that seat, which she did in a precipitant manner, and hasted to another part of the room, and then was in like concern for her child, to whom she called with uncommon earnestness to come to her, which she did, immediately after came a cannon ball and struck the seat all in pieces, and drove the parts of it about the room, without any hurt to either of them. From this relation I took occasion to reason with her thus:

"That Intelligencer which gave her notice, by fear, of the danger they were in, must be a spiritual being, having access to her mind (which is likewise of a spiritual nature) when in that state of humiliation under those circumstances; and must also be a good and beneficent Intelligencer, willing to preserve them and furnished also with knowledge and foresight more than human. He must have known that such a piece would be fired at that time, and that the ball would hit that seat, and infallibly destroy you both, if not prevented in due time by a suitable admonition, which he suggested by the passion fear (the passions being useful when duly subjected) and by that means saved your lives. And seeing that the passions of the mind can be wrought upon for our good, by an invisible, beneficent Intelligencer in the mind, in a state of humiliation and stillness, without any exterior medium, is it not reasonable to conclude, that an evil Intelligencer may have access likewise to the mind in a state of unwatchfullness, when the passions are moving, and the imagination at liberty to form ideas destructive to the mind, being thereby depraved and wounded? And when so, is it not likewise reasonable to think, that the Almighty himself, who is the most pure, merciful and beneficent spirit, knowing all events and things, doth sometimes, at his pleasure, visit the minds of mankind thrbugh Christ, as through or under a veil, so as to communicate all his goodness and virtue to a humble and silent mind, to heal and instruct him in things pleasing to himself, and proper for the conduct of man in his pilgrimage through this present world, and lead him to the next in safety.

.....Where no fears invade, nor ills molest,
His soul shall dwell immortal with the blest;
In that bright realm, where dearest friends no more
Shall from each other's throbbing breast be tore,
Where all those glorious spirits sit enshrin'd,
The just, the good, the virtuous of mankind.
There shall fair angels in a radient ring,
And the great son of Heav'n's eternal king,
Proclaim him welcome to the blissful skies,
And wipe the tears for ever from his eyes.

A SUBSCRIBER.

To the Farmers of Washington and Westmoreland Counties.

My Friends and Countrymen,

SOMETIME ago by perusing the Philadelphia newspapers, I find a large sum of money laid in the different counties of this state, as a state tax for the year, 1787.

Where this money is to be raised, God only knows, as it appears to me a thing impossible; the great prospect of a trade down the river is vanished, and never have we seen a crisis that wore so gloomy an aspect as the present, for want of cash; which puts it entirely out of our power to discharge our public debts and other demands, such as land-office fees, surveyors fees, and prothonotors and lawyers fees, which are the worst of all.

Now, my friends, your attention at this time is wanting, as all the markets southwardly is annihilated, we have but a small prospect otherwise, which is this---

Congress having augmented the troops, on the peace establishment, to 2040 men, for the defence of the western frontiers, which including officers, waste age and followers of the army, will consume about 3000 pounds of flour daily, this will amount in a year to 1095030 pounds, and should bring the sum of 10950 Spanish milled dollars into our country, or a sum equivalent in paper currency, which would answer the same purpose, and it would enable us to discharge the expences aforesaid.

But, look back and see what sort of payment we receive; when we go to the contractors store, we ask, will you purchase flour? If you take goods as we have no money, is the answer. We want money, as we are sued for our taxes by the collector, and to make up a fee for a lawyer against next January court.

Well, what is to be done? Why, our only alternative, is either to take goods, or not sell our produce to the contractors. If we determine on the latter we may go from house to house through the town of Pittsburgh, and not be able to get 8s. 4d. per Cwt. for flour, after all our trouble.

The want of that evil, cash, will, without a doubt ruin us, unless some vigorous exertion is made to bring some to this country. Congress having ordered the augmentation of the troops as before mentioned, and it said, they will be here in a short time; I make no doubt but they will be victualled by persons appointed for that purpose, and if you keep up your produce until that time, you undoubtedly will receive cash for it, as the troops must be supplied.

I am informed that there are several stores already opened in the country, with a large assortment of goods, to purchase produce, I suppose, for this purpose; but take my advice, and not let temptations of that kind delude you. And, I do say, if you persevere, but for a short time, in keeping up your produce, you will find in the end your labours well rewarded.

A FARMER.

Washington County, December 1, 1786.

Pittsburgh, December 9, 1786.

WHEREAS a mistaken opinion has prevailed among some people respecting the commencement of their payments for the Pittsburgh Gazette; some supposing the advertisement circulated by the Printers obliged all persons to pay from the first number which was published, others, with more propriety, and with a better face of justice, that they were bound to compensate the Printers from the date of the first paper they should receive---for the satisfaction of such as are doubtful respecting the commencement of their payment, I do hereby inform them, that payment for the Pittsburgh Gazette commences from the date of the first paper each subscriber receives.

JOHN SCULL.

STRAYED from the subscriber, living on the head waters of the west fork of Chartiers Creek, on the 20th of October last, a black stallion colt, one year old last May, has three white feet and a bald face, a long tail, no brand, a natural trotter: a bay filly, one year old last spring, has a long tail, a natural trotter, is half blooded. Whoever takes up said strays, and brings them to the subscriber as aforesaid, shall receive Two Dollars reward for each, paid by

JAMES SHEARER.

PATRICK PHELON, Esquire, captain in the late army of the United States, being in the British town of Halifax, Nova-Scotia, a short time since, was, for chastising an abusive inhabitants there, who had forced himself into his quarters, summoned before a *civil court* in that town, "to answer for the *high misdemeanor*." His birth in *said place*, and the part he took in the late revolution, excited the curiosity of a number to hear his trial. On the clerk of the court's reading the charge, and with remarkable pathos saying, "the King against Patrick Phelon;" a wag facetiously remarked, "That the tables were turned; for during the late war, Phelon had been uniformly against the king; but no doubt *now* wishes to be delivered from the "King's Evil depending."

THOUGHTS on PARTING.

WHAT grief afflicts a feeling heart,
When forc'd from dearest friends to part!
Affection prompts the sigh:
Each fond endearment bids us stay,
While duty chides each short delay,
And speaks the parting nigh.

A kiss, a look, a filial tear,
To firmest friends or parents dear,
A tribute we must pay;
And in return the fond embrace,
With sorrow pictur'd on each face,
Still seems to bid me stay.

But duty drives——affection fails,
And fortune spreads her swelling sails,
To bear to distant shores;
Hopes tempts us on with thoughts of gain
And bids defy e'en toil and pain,
To grasp at fortune's stores.

But vain! illusive all her charms,
She tempts us from our kindred arms,
To where each scene is strange;
Then often leaves us to our fate,
And bids us with, alas! too late,
We ne'er had sought to range.

For let me do whate'er I will
The thoughts of home attend me still,
And bind me to that spot;
'Tis nature who commands the breast,
That makes it ever seem the best
What'er may be our lot.

But cheer again thou hope forlorn,
I see! I see! the smiling morn,
That makes my happy day;
Thy gifts, O fortune, I despise,
For virtue bids me yet be wise,
Nor from her precepts stray.

A humble competence I crave,
Alike from want and pride I have,
And this should make me blest;
I ne'er again would want to roam,
But fix my residence at home,
In friendly peace and rest.

❖❖❖❖❖

MODERN ANECDOTE.

A BENEVOLENT, wealthy justice of the peace in Connecticut, used to send his servant boy generally once a week to the parson with a piece of fresh meat. The priest, rather morose in his disposition, would take no farther notice of the lad, than barely, bluntly ordering him to carry it into the kitchen. The boy thinking a few coppers necessary for his trouble, and nettled at the repeated instances of his niggardliness, quitted his master's service. The justice soon furnished himself with another, who happening within a few days to meet the former boy upon asking the question, informed him that he lived with 'Squire ..... The first boy says to him, 'you will soon be tired of living there, because he will send you to the parson's every few days with some meat, and he will never give you any thing but scolding for your pains.' However, the last boy thought best to try his fortune notwithstanding the unfavorable account. Accordingly, in a short time his worship sends him on the customary errand. The boy knocks respectfully, and approaches the priest with, 'my master sends his best respects to Mr. ....., and begs him to accept a bit of fresh meat.' 'Carry it into the kitchen,' was all the thanks he received at that time. In a week or two after he is sent again. Without ceremony he bounces into the room, and says with a very distinct voice, 'here is some meat for you;' 'sirrah, says the clergyman, you should not do your errand so.' 'How should I do it?' says the boy---- 'Here, give me the meat,' says the minister, 'and I'll shew you.' He takes the meat and goes out, and the boy, with great composure, takes his seat in the same chair which the priest had left. The clergyman enters and says, 'my master presents his respects to Mr. ....., and begs him to accept a bit of fresh meat;' 'carry it into the kitchen boy,' says the lad; and, 'my dear,' (says he to the minister's wife) 'give this boy five or six coppers.' The priest took the hint, and rewarded the boy generously for his service and reprimand.

GINGSENG.

A QUANTITY of good GINSENG wanted by the subscribers, for which a generous Price will be allowed in Merchandize.

It must not be dried in an oven, or in any manner that will dry it too quickly: the roots must be kept as whole as possible.

DANIEL BRITT & Co. Contractors.

CERTIFICATES for the LAND OFFICE

MAY *be had of the subscriber, at his office in Market-street, between Fourth and Fifth streets, nearly opposite the sign of the Black Bear, where every person applying may be furnished with the exact sum they may have occasion for in the land-office, and their warrants carried through without any other charge than the fees of the different offices, by*

THOMAS FORREST.

Who buys and sells all kinds of CERTIFICATES of this state, or any of the United States.

Philadelphia, Sept. 2, 1786.

AN OFFICE

For the Purchase and Sale of the various kinds of Continental and State Certificates. Also Houses, Lots and Lands, by

MATTHEW M'CONNEL,

ON the east side of Second-street, between Market and Chesnut streets, seven doors below Black Horse-alley, Philadelphia. Who furnishes Certificates for the Land Office, and will carry the warrants through, clear of any commission.

All applications and orders from persons residing in any part of this, or of the United States, will be punctually attended to; whether to make purchases or sales, payments in the land office, or to receive interest at the continental loan office or state treasury.

A BOARDING and DAY SCHOOL for YOUNG LADIES WILL be opened on Wednesday the 15th instant, by Mrs. PRIDE, in the house where John Gibson formerly lived, behind his stone house. Where they will be taught the following branches of needle work, viz.

Plain Work	Fringing
Coloured ditto	Dresden
Flowering	Tambouring, and
Lace, both by the bobin & needle	Embroidering.

Also, Reading English and knitting if required.

Mrs. Pride from the long experience she has had as a teacher, and the liberal encouragement she has met with hitherto, both in Britain and Philadelphia, flatters herself, that by the utmost attention in teaching the said branches, as also taking the strictest care of the morals and good breeding of the young ladies placed under her care, that upon tryal she will also merit the approbation and encouragement of the inhabitants on this side the Alleghany Mountain.

Pittsburgh, Nov. 10, 1786.

CAME to the plantation of the subscriber, living in Rostraver township, Westmoreland county, on the 27th of September, a light coloured sorrel Mare about 5 years old, 13 hands and 3 inches high, has a blaze in her face, shod before, some small white spots on each side of her head; a natural trotter. The owner is desired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take her away.

TETER ELROD.

November 12.

FREEMAN & SAVEREN,

Cabinet Makers and Upholsterers,

MAKES in the newest fashion and neatest manner, all kinds of Cabinet work; also, they do the business of Upholsters in the different branches. They are determined to ask the lowest prices for their work and hope by their attention to the commands of those who please to employ them, to merit a continuance of their favors. Pittsburgh, Nov. 17, 1786.

ALL persons indebted to the subscriber are desired to make payment by the 25th of next month; those who neglect to settle their accounts by that time may depend on being sued without respect of persons, and any person having demands against the subscriber are requested to bring them in for payment.

JAMES WILLIAMSON.

Pittsburgh, Nov. 20, 1786.

WANTED, a man who understands Vocal Music, and who can teach it with propriety; such a person will meet with good encouragement from the Inhabitants of Pittsburgh. Nov. 24.

Just opened and to be sold by the subscriber living on the bank of the river, between Mr. David Duncan's and Mr. John Ormsby's.

A LARGE *and general assortment of DRY and WET GOODS, which he will dispose of on the most reasonable terms for cash, country produce, peltry or ginseng.*

JOHN GIBSON.

Messrs. SCULL & HALL,

FOR the satisfaction of persons who have entrusted me with business in the way of law, I take the liberty to mention in your paper, that I shall return from Philadelphia before the next sitting of the county courts, and attend them.

H. H. BRACKENRIDGE.

Pittsburgh, October 30, 1786.

ANY person or persons having demands against Daniel Broadhead, jun. are desired to bring them to the subscriber, who is authorised to settle the same. The subscriber means to continue business, as formerly, at Peter's Creek, Washington County: he has furnished himself with a neat assortment of Dry Goods, which he will dispose of on the most reasonable terms for cash, country produce, peltry or ginseng.

Bell Mont, Nov. 8, 1786. JOHN M'DONALD.

WHEREAS my wife Elizabeth Brown has for some considerable time left my bed, and behaved in an unbecoming manner, I hereby forwarn any person from trusting her on my account, as I will not pay any debts of her contracting.

Nov. 23, 1786. JOHN BROWN.

RAN-AWAY from the custody of the subscriber, on Thursday night last, in this place, a certain John Gardner; he has been in Mr. Daniel Elliott's employment for some time past; he is slender made, and of a swarthy complexion, about 23 or 24 years old, he had on a light coloured coating surtout coat, waistcoat and overalls of the same, he is about 5 feet 10 inches high. Whoever takes up said Gardner, and brings him to the subscriber shall receive Twenty Dollars Reward, paid by me

JAMES CHAMBERS, High Constable.

Pittsburgh, Nov. 24, 1786.

N. B. Said Gardner is of Dutch extraction.

DANIEL BRITT & CO.

Have for Sale, a General Assortment of

MERCHANDIZE,

WHICH will be Sold on reasonable Terms for Cash, Flour, Whisky, Beef, Pork, Bacon, Wheat, Rye, Oats, Corn, Ashes, Flaxseed, Tallow, &c &c.

Pittsburgh, July 28.

THE subscribers propose to begin BAKING about the 11th or 12th instant, on a method they flatter themselves will give satisfaction to their customers. Their mode of supplying customers in this town with bread, shall be communicated to the inhabitants before that time.

As they mean to have Biscuit ready baked and packed in barrels and kegs, or loose for smaller demands, therefore will be able to supply expeditiously those on a passage down the Ohio river to Kentucky, or elsewhere, and surveyors or others going to uninhabited parts.

They will take any saleable country produce in payment, as well as cash. And all times regulate their price for bread, agreeable to the rates flour in general sells for.

HUGH GARDNER.
JOHN COWAN.

Pittsburgh, Dec. 1, 1786.

*** Persons residing in the country, who wish to become subscribers to the Pittsburgh Gazette, are hereby informed that Country Produce will be taken in payment for their subscriptions. Dec. 1, 1786.

ASHES WANTED.

THE subscribers will give one shilling per bushel, in Cash, for all good Wood Ashes, delivered at this place before Christmas.

DANIEL BRITT & Co.

Pittsburgh, Nov. 10.

PITTSBURGH: *Printed and Sold by* JOHN SCULL, *at his Printing-Office in Water-street, near the Ferry, where* Subscriptions (at 17s6 per ann.) Advertisements, *&c. for this Paper, are thankfully received, and* PRINTING *in its different Branches is done with Care, Elegance, and Expedition.*---ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding a Square are Inserted Three Weeks for a Dollar, and very continuance after one-fourth of a Dollar; those exceeding a square are inserted in proportion.